
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII TOURISM
AUTHORITY TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE PROCESSING OF
STATE OF HAWAII PLANT AND ANIMAL DECLARATION FORMS,
INCLUDING THE COSTS INVOLVED, AND CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO
REVIEW THE EFFICACY OF SUCH FORMS.

1 WHEREAS, section 150A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
2 all passengers upon arrival to Hawaii to complete a State of
3 Hawaii plant and animal declaration form; and
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5 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration
6 form requires information on the importation of plants and
7 animals, and requests statistical information on visitors and
8 residents; and
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10 WHEREAS, inspections of passengers' bags for possible
11 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii are conducted upon
12 the passengers' arrival in Hawaii from the mainland and
13 international locations; and
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15 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii plant and animal declaration
16 form and amnesty bins at the airports are among the multiple
17 means by which the Department of Agriculture regulates the
18 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii; and
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20 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine
21 Branch inspects regulated commodities at all ports of entry into
22 Hawaii; and
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24 WHEREAS, without enhanced enforcement of importation
25 restrictions, passengers could be knowingly or unknowingly
26 importing prohibited plants and animals that pose a threat to
27 Hawaii's delicate ecosystem; and
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29 WHEREAS, information collected from the State of Hawaii
30 plant and animal declaration form is reportedly processed and
31 used by the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism



1 Authority, and this body finds that more detailed information on
2 the processing and use of data collected may present
3 opportunities to glean additional insights or increase the cost-
4 effectiveness of the process; now, therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
7 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the
8 Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism Authority are
9 requested to submit a report on the processing of the State of
10 Hawaii plant and animal declaration form to the Legislature no
11 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
12 Session of 2020; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include:

- 15
16 (1) A description of the use of information obtained from
17 the forms;
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19 (2) The costs associated with the forms, including but not
20 limited to costs for printing, processing, and
21 distributing the forms and personnel costs for
22 processing information obtained through the forms;
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24 (3) The number of staff assigned to review the forms;
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26 (4) The method by which the forms are disposed;
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28 (5) How often forms require a follow-up;
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30 (6) The effectiveness of the forms;
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32 (7) The level of compliance by passengers and carriers;
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34 (8) The number of penalties, if any, imposed for failure
35 to complete the form; and
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37 (9) Whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii
38 Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the
39 forms; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture,
42 in collaboration with the Hawaii Tourism Authority, is requested



1 to convene a task force to review the efficacy of the State of
2 Hawaii plant and animal declaration forms; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to one
5 representative each from the Department of Agriculture and the
6 Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Chairperson of the Board of
7 Agriculture is requested to include the additional following
8 members of the task force:
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- 10 (1) One representative of the Department of
11 Transportation;
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- 13 (2) One representative of the Department of Business,
14 Economic Development, and Tourism;
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- 16 (3) One representative of the University of Hawaii College
17 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
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- 19 (4) One representative of the Hawaii Invasive Species
20 Council;
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- 22 (5) One representative of the Sierra Club of Hawaii;
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- 24 (6) One representative of the Airlines Committee of
25 Hawaii; and
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- 27 (7) One representative of the International Longshore and
28 Warehouse Union, Local 142; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
31 review:
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- 33 (1) The relevance and usefulness of the State of Hawaii
34 plant and animal declaration forms;
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- 36 (2) Possible improvements that may be made to the forms;
37 and
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- 39 (3) Ways in which the enforcement of passengers'
40 completion of the forms may be increased; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
3 Agriculture; Director of Transportation; Director of Business,
4 Economic Development, and Tourism; President and Chief Executive
5 Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Dean of the University
6 of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
7 Department of Land and Natural Resources Invasive Species
8 Coordinator; Chair of the Executive Committee of the Sierra Club
9 of Hawaii; Chair of the Airlines Committee of Hawaii; and
10 President of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union,
11 Local 142.
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